Atty Dkt No. UDL 0157 PUSA

S/N: 09/890,771 Reply to Office Action of July 16, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

102V

- 1. (Currently Amended) A bottom anchor assembly for a substantially vertically-oriented elongate safety line, said anchor assembly comprising a safety line [gripping means] gripper, a safety line [tensioning means and] tensioner, a bracket [[means]] that is adapted to be fixedly mounted, wherein the [gripping means] gripper includes a manually adjustable clamp [[and]] that can be clamped to the safety line at an adjustable position along its length, the [tensioning means includes] tensioner including a hollow shaft connected to the gripper and through which the safety line passes and extends upwardly, said hollow shaft [[being]] having an externally screw-threaded [and being provided on its screw-threaded portion with load-setting means] portion including a load setter threadingly adjustable thereon and adapted to bear against the underside of said fixed bracket [[means]] for adjusting the safety line tension to a predetermined value.
- 2. (Currently Amended) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the manually adjustable clamp [consists of] <u>includes</u> a pair of clamp blocks adapted to be placed in face-to-face opposing relationship around the safety line immediately beneath the hollow shaft.
- 3. (Original) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 2 wherein the clamp blocks are provided with mutually-aligned grooves or recesses substantially conforming to the profile of the safety line.
- 4. (Currently Amended) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 3 wherein the clamp blocks are loosely clamped to each other using screw-threaded [fastening means] <u>fasteners</u> for initial assembly and include a further screw-threaded fastener for applying [[the]] final clamping torque.

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102 Const 5. (Currently Amended) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the manually adjustable clamp [consists of] <u>includes</u> a collet grip through which the safety line passes.

- 6. (Original) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 5 wherein the collet grip is held between an end of the hollow shaft and a screw threaded fastener engaging the external screw thread on the hollow shaft.
- 7. (Original) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 6 wherein the collet grip can be opened or closed onto the safety line by rotating the screw threaded fastener relative to the hollow shaft.
- 8. (Previously Presented) A bottom anchor assembly according to claim 5 or 6 wherein the collet grip is biased closed onto the safety line by a resilient element.
- 9. (Original) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 8 wherein a sliding release member is provided in contact with the collet grip so that the collet grip can be opened against the bias of the resilient element.
- 10. (Currently Amended) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 5 wherein the bracket [[means]] includes open jaw members adapted to receive the hollow shaft.
- 11. (Currently Amended) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed <u>in</u> claim 10 wherein the [ends of the] open jaw members [[are]] <u>have ends</u> provided with down-turned portions which serve to prevent accidental removal of the [load-setting means] <u>load setter</u> threaded on the hollow shaft from between the jaw members when the system is adjusted to its predetermined tension.

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12. (Currently Amended) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 5 further comprising <u>an</u> indicator [[means]] for providing a visible indication of when said predetermined tension has been achieved.